Douglas R. Hookland, OSB No. 872583 drh@scott-hookland.com Scott ◆ Hookland LLP 9185 SW Burnham Tigard, OR 97223 P.O. Box 23414 Tigard, OR 97281-3414 (503) 620-4540

Attorneys For Use Plaintiff and Third-Party Plaintiff Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc., dba CED Power

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON

PORTLAND DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA for the use and benefit of CONSOLIDATED ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS, INC., a Delaware corporation, dba CED POWER,

Plaintiff,

VS.

NOVA GROUP, INC., a California corporation; FEDERAL INSURANCE COMPANY, an Indiana corporation; and LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, a Massachusetts corporation,

Defendants,

Case No. 3:18-cv-01905-SB

THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

Page 1 - THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

SCOTT ♦ HOOKLAND LLP

LAWYERS

Mailing Address: Post Office Box 23414, Tigard, Oregon 97281 ♦ Street Address: 9185 SW Burnham, Tigard, Oregon 97223 Telephone: 503-620-4540 ♦ Facsimile: 503-620-4315

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA for the use and benefit of CONSOLIDATED ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS, INC., a Delaware corporation, dba CED POWER,

Third-Party Plaintiff,

VS.

INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIC MFG., INC., a suspended California entity; and RESOURCE ENGINEERING PRODUCTS, LLC, an Oregon limited liability company,

Third-Party Defendants.

Plaintiff and third-party plaintiff allege:

JURISDICTION

1. This action arises under, and the Court has jurisdiction of this action pursuant to, the "Miller Act," 40 U.S.C. §270b. This action is brought under the name of the United States of America for the use and benefit of Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc., dba CED Power.

PARTIES

- 2. The use plaintiff and third-party plaintiff, Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc. ("CED"), is a Delaware corporation and is authorized to transact business in Oregon as a foreign corporation and does transact business in Oregon under the registered assumed business name of CED Power.
- 3. Defendant Nova Group, Inc. ("Nova") is a California corporation authorized to transact business in Oregon as a foreign corporation.

Page 2 - THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

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EXHIBIT A
PAGE 2 OF 33

4. Defendant Federal Insurance Company ("Federal") is an Indiana corporation authorized to transact surety business in the State of Oregon.

5. Defendant Liberty Mutual Insurance Company ("Liberty") is a Massachusetts corporation authorized to transact surety business in the State of Oregon.

6. Third-party defendant Industrial Electric Mfg., Inc. ("IEM") is a suspended California entity.

7. Third-party defendant Resource Engineering Products, LLC ("REP") is an Oregon limited liability company.

GENERAL ALLEGATIONS

8. On or about November 14, 2014, Nova entered into a written contract, No. W9127N-15-C-0002, with the United States of America, by and through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, for the replacement at Bonneville Lock & Dam of the Bonneville Powerhouse One Main Unit Circuit Breaker & Instrument Transformer ("Project"). The locations at which the work of the Project was to be performed are within the State of Oregon in or near Multnomah County. Prior to and through December 11, 2017, CED furnished materials to the Project at the request of Nova and pursuant to agreement with Nova. CED purchased such materials from IEM and REP pursuant to agreements with each.

9. In its Complaint in this action ("Complaint"), CED alleges claims for (a) Miller Act Bond Claim against all defendants, and (b) breach of contract against Nova (on account, breach of contract, and quantum meruit) to recover sums owed to CED for materials furnished to the Project.

Page 3 - THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

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All claims by CED in the Complaint shall be referred to herein as "Claims". A copy of the

Complaint is attached hereto and incorporated herein as Exhibit "A". In its answer to the Complaint

("Answer"), Nova asserts counterclaims against CED for breach of contract/indemnity and breach

of warranty (collectively "Counterclaims"). A copy of the Answer is attached hereto and

incorporated herein as Exhibit "B".

CED wholly denies all the allegations in the Counterclaims, and alleges that Nova 10.

is not entitled to any setoff against the Claims or affirmative relief against CED. However, to the

extent Nova is entitled to any setoff or affirmative relief on its Counterclaims, IEM and REP are

liable to CED for all or part of the Counterclaims, and any relief granted thereunder, as set forth

below.

FIRST THIRD-PARTY CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Breach of Contract)

For its First Third-Party Claim for Relief, against IEM and REP, CED alleges:

11. Incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 through 10 above.

Both IEM and REP breached their contracts with CED by failing to (a) furnish 12.

materials that satisfied the Project specifications, and/or (b) furnish materials timely. CED is entitled

to recover from IEM and REP all damages, including setoffs, that Nova is entitled to pursuant to its

Counterclaims. By contract, CED is also entitled to recover from IEM and REP its reasonable

attorney fees incurred in defending against the Counterclaims and asserting this third-party claim and

in asserting and pursuing to final judgment this third-party claim.

Page 4 - THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

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SECOND THIRD-PARTY CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Indemnity)

For its **Second Third-Party Claim for Relief**, against IEM and REP, CED alleges:

13. Incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 through 10 above.

14. Between CED and IEM or REP, as the initial suppliers of the materials, IEM and REP

are primarily liable for the Counterclaims, and so must fully indemnify CED for the Counterclaims,

including but not limited to for any setoff achieved by Nova on the Counterclaims. The indemnity

obligations of IEM and REP include paying for CED's reasonable attorney fees incurred to defend

the Counterclaims.

THIRD THIRD-PARTY CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Contribution)

For its Third Third-Party Claim for Relief, against IEM and REP, CED alleges:

15. Incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 through 10 above.

16. IEM and REP agreed to provide CED with materials that complied with the Project's

specifications and schedule. To the extent Nova prevails on its Counterclaims, IEM and REP must

each pay CED, by way of contribution, their share of the liability on the Counterclaims, including

but not limited to for any setoff of the Claims to which Nova is awarded. This contribution

obligation includes paying for CED's reasonable attorney fees incurred to defend the Counterclaims.

PRAYER

1. On its First Third-Party Claim For Relief, Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc.,

Page 5 - THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

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LAWYERS

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dba CED Power, requests that judgment be entered in its favor against defendants Industrial Electric

Mfg., Inc. and Resource Engineering Products, LLC, to the extent of each of their responsibilities

for the Counterclaims in an amount to be proven at trial, plus plaintiff's reasonable attorney fees and

costs and disbursements incurred herein.

On its Second Third-Party Claim For Relief, Consolidated Electrical Distributors, 2.

Inc., dba CED Power, requests that judgment be entered in its favor and against defendants Industrial

Electric Mfg., Inc. and Resource Engineering Products, LLC, to the extent of each of their

responsibilities for the Counterclaims in an amount to be proven at trial, plus plaintiff's reasonable

attorney fees incurred to defend the Counterclaims, plus its costs and disbursements herein;

On its Third Third-Party Claim For Relief, Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc.,

dba CED Power, requests that judgment be entered in its favor and against defendants Industrial

Electric Mfg., Inc. and Resource Engineering Products, LLC, to the extent of each of their

responsibilities for the Counterclaims in an amount to be proven at trial, plus plaintiff's reasonable

attorney fees incurred to defend the Counterclaims, plus its costs and disbursements herein;

For such other relief as the court deems just and equitable. 4.

DATED this _____ day of January, 2019.

SCOTT ♦ HOOKLAND LLP

Douglas R. Hookland, OSB #872583

drh@scott-hookland.com

Of Attorneys for Use Plaintiff and Third-Party Plaintiff Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc.,

dba CED Power

Page 6 - THIRD-PARTY COMPLAINT

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| 1 2 | Douglas R. Hookland, OSB No. 872583 drh@scott-hookland.com | | | | | |
|--------|---|-----------|--|--|--|--|
| 3 | Scott ◆ Hookland LLP | | | | | |
| 4 | 9185 SW Burnham | | | | | |
| 5 | Tigard, OR 97223 | | | | | |
| 6 | P.O. Box 23414 | | | | | |
| 7 | Tigard, OR 97281-3414 | | | | | |
| 8 | (503) 620-4540 | | | | | |
| 9 | Attorneys For Use Plaintiff Consolidated | | | | | |
| -0, | Electrical Distributors, Inc., dba CED Power | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| L1 | | | | | | |
| L2 | IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT | | | | | |
| 13 | FOR THE DISTRICT OF OREGON | | | | | |
| 14 | PORTLAND DIVISION | | | | | |
| 15 | UNITED STATES OF AMERICA for the | Case No. | | | | |
| 16 | use and benefit of CONSOLIDATED | | | | | |
| 17 | ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS, INC., a | COMPLAINT | | | | |
| 18 | Delaware corporation, dba CED POWER, | | | | | |
| 19 | Plaintiff, | | | | | |
| 20 | vs. | | | | | |
| 21 | NOVA GROUP, INC., a California | | | | | |
| 22 | corporation; FEDERAL INSURANCE | | | | | |
| 23 | COMPANY, an Indiana corporation; and | | | | | |
| 24 | LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE | | | | | |
| 25 | COMPANY, a Massachusetts corporation, | | | | | |
| 26 | Defendants. | | | | | |
| 27 | /// | | | | | |
| ' | 111 | | | | | |

Page 1 - COMPLAINT

SCOTT ♦ HOOKLAND LLP

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Exhibit A Page 1 of 8

| 1 | Plaintiff alleges: |
|----|---|
| 2 | <u>JURISDICTION</u> |
| 3 | 1. This action arises under, and the Court has jurisdiction of this action pursuant to, the |
| 4 | "Miller Act," 40 U.S.C. §270b. This action is brought under the name of the United States of |
| 5 | America for the use and benefit of Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc., dba CED Power. |
| 6 | <u>PARTIES</u> |
| 7 | 2. The use plaintiff, Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc. ("CED"), is a Delaware |
| 8 | corporation and is authorized to transact business in Oregon as a foreign corporation and does |
| 9 | transact business in Oregon under the registered assumed business name of CED Power. |
| 10 | 3. Defendant Nova Group, Inc. ("Nova") is a California corporation authorized to |
| 11 | transact business in Oregon as a foreign corporation. |
| 12 | 4. Defendant Federal Insurance Company ("Federal") is an Indiana corporation |
| 13 | authorized to transact surety business in the State of Oregon. |
| 14 | 5. Defendant Liberty Mutual Insurance Company ("Liberty") is a Massachusetts |
| 15 | corporation authorized to transact surety business in the State of Oregon. |
| 16 | FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF |
| 17 | (Miller Act Bond Claim) |
| 18 | For its First Claim For Relief against all defendants, CED alleges: |
| 19 | 6. CED incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 1 through 5 above. |
| 20 | 7. On or about November 14, 2014, Nova entered into a written contract, No. W9127N- |
| 21 | 15-C-0002, with the United States of America, by and through the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, |
| | Page 2 - COMPLAINT |
| | SCOTT • HOOKLAND LLP LAWYERS |
| | Mailing Address: Post Office Box 23414, Tigard, Oregon 97281 ♦ Street Address: 9185 SW Burnham, Tigard, Oregon 97223 Telephone: 503-620-4540 ♦ Facsimile: 503-620-4315 |

XHIBIT A
PAGE 8 OF 22

| 1 | for the replacement at Bonneville Lock & Dam of the Bonneville Powerhouse One Main Unit Circuit |
|---|--|
| 2 | Breaker & Instrument Transformer ("Project"). The locations at which the work of the Project was |
| 3 | to be performed are within the State of Oregon in or near Multnomah County. The amount of the |

- 8. On or about November 17, 2014, Nova as principal, and Federal and Liberty as sureties, executed a bond ("Bond") in compliance with 40 USC §270(a)(2) for the protection of all persons supplying labor and materials in furtherance of the Project. The Bond has at all material times been in full force and effect.
- 9. Prior to and through December 11, 2017, CED furnished materials to the Project at the request of Nova and pursuant to agreement with Nova. CED's materials were actually used upon the Project.
- 10. After deduction of all just credits and offsets, the total principal balance owed to CED by Nova for materials furnished by CED in connection with the Project is the principal amount of \$424,935.20. Despite demand by CED for payment, none of the defendants have paid any part of the balance.
- 11. In accordance with the provisions of the Bond and the Miller Act, Nova as principal and Federal and Liberty as sureties, are jointly and severally liable to CED for the principal balance of \$424,935.20, plus accrued interest pursuant to statute and/or contract, and CED's attorney fees pursuant to contract.
- 20 12. At the time this action is commenced, more than 90 days and less than one year has

Page 3 - COMPLAINT

contract exceeds \$100,000.00.

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L A W Y E R S

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| 1 | elapsed from the last date on which CED furnished materials on the Project for which this claim is | | | | |
|----------|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | made. | | | | |
| 3 | 13. CED is entitled to prejudgment interest on the principal balance of \$424,935.20 at | | | | |
| 4 | the rate(s) provided for by statute or agreement. | | | | |
| 5 | 14. CED is entitled to recover its reasonable attorney fees pursuant to contract and | | | | |
| 6 | pursuant to the terms of ORS 742.061. | | | | |
| 7 | SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF | | | | |
| 8 | COUNT ONE | | | | |
| 9 | (On Account) | | | | |
| 10 | For its Second Claim For Relief, against defendant Nova, Count One, CED alleges as | | | | |
| 11 | follows: | | | | |
| 12 | 15. Incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 2 and 3 above. | | | | |
| 13 | 16. Defendant Nova is indebted to CED in the principal sum of \$424,935.20, together | | | | |
| 14 | with interest thereon at the rate pursuant to contract or statute from the dates due until paid, for the | | | | |
| 15 | balance of account for materials supplied, the particulars of which are set forth on Exhibit "A", | | | | |
| 16 | attached hereto and incorporated by this reference herein, together with the credits to which | | | | |
| 17 | defendant Nova is entitled, leaving due and unpaid the above-mentioned sum, to wit: | | | | |
| 18 19 | (a) The sum of \$424,935.20, together with interest thereon at the rate pursuant to contract or statute from the dates due until paid. | | | | |
| 20 | 17. Defendant Nova's agreement with CED provides further that Nova will pay CED's | | | | |
| 21 | attorney fees incurred in the collection of its account. CED is entitled to its reasonable attorney fees | | | | |

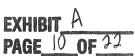
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Page 4 - COMPLAINT



| 1 | incurred herein pursuant to the agreement. | | | | | |
|----|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | 18. | 18. Plaintiff performed all conditions precedent on its part to be performed. Defendant | | | | |
| 3 | Nova has not paid said sum or any part thereof. | | | | | |
| 4 | | COUNT TWO | | | | |
| 5 | | (Breach of Contract) | | | | |
| 6 | For a | n alternative statement of its Second Claim For Relief against defendant Nova, CED | | | | |
| 7 | alleges: | | | | | |
| 8 | 19. | Incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 2 and 3 above. | | | | |
| 9 | 20. | CED and Nova entered into an agreement whereby CED agreed to provide to Nova | | | | |
| LO | materials upon Nova's request, and Nova agreed to pay for the materials. | | | | | |
| 11 | 21. | CED performed all conditions precedent on its part to be performed, including | | | | |
| 12 | providing the materials to Nova upon its request. | | | | | |
| 13 | 22. | Defendant Nova materially breached said agreement by failing to pay the charges for | | | | |
| 14 | materials. | | | | | |
| 15 | 23. | As the direct and proximate result of Nova's breach, CED has been damaged in the | | | | |
| 16 | total princip | oal sum of \$424,935.20, together with interest thereon at the rate pursuant to contract or | | | | |
| 17 | statute from the dates due until paid. | | | | | |
| 18 | 24. | Defendant Nova has failed to pay said sums or any part thereof. Pursuant to the terms | | | | |
| 19 | of the agree | ement, CED is entitled to its reasonable attorney fees. | | | | |
| 20 | /// | | | | | |
| 21 | /// | | | | | |
| | Page 5 - Co | OMPLAINT SCOTT ♦ HOOKLAND LLP | | | | |
| | | LAWYERS | | | | |
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| 1 | COUNT THREE | | | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | (Quantum Meruit) | | | | | | |
| 3 | For an alternative statement of its Second Claim For Relief against defendant Nova, CED | | | | | | |
| 4 | alleges: | | | | | | |
| 5 | 25. Incorporates by reference and realleges paragraphs 2 and 3 above. | | | | | | |
| 6 | 26. CED provided materials to Nova in the State of Oregon at the request of Nova, and | | | | | | |
| 7 | Nova is indebted to CED for the reasonable value of such materials, which is \$424,935.20. | | | | | | |
| 8 | 27. The amount, type, and quality of such materials were reasonable. Nova has failed | | | | | | |
| 9 | to pay the amount of \$424,935.20 or any part thereof. | | | | | | |
| 10 | PRAYER | | | | | | |
| 11 | 1. On its <u>First Claim For Relief</u> , Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc., dba CEI | | | | | | |
| 12 | Power requests that judgment be entered in its favor against defendants Nova Group, Inc., Federa | | | | | | |
| 13 | Insurance Company, and Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, jointly and severally, in the principa | | | | | | |
| 14 | amount of \$424,395.20, plus accrued interest pursuant to statute and/or contract from the dates du | | | | | | |
| 15 | until paid, and CED's reasonable attorney fees, and costs and disbursements. | | | | | | |
| 16 | 2. On its <u>Second Claim For Relief</u> , Count One, Consolidated Electrical Distributors | | | | | | |
| 17 | Inc., dba CED Power requests that judgment be entered in its favor and against defendant Nov | | | | | | |
| 18 | Group, Inc. in the principal amount of \$424,395.20, together with interest at the rate pursuant to | | | | | | |
| 19 | contract or statute from the dates due until paid, and for its attorney fees and costs and disbursemen | | | | | | |
| 20 | herein; | | | | | | |
| 21 | 3. In the alternative to Count One above, on its <u>Second Claim For Relief</u> , Second Cour | | | | | | |
| | Page 6 - COMPLAINT | | | | | | |
| | SCOTT ♦ HOOKLAND LLP | | | | | | |
| | L A W Y E R S Mailing Address: Post Office Box 23414, Tigard, Oregon 97281 ♦ Street Address: 9185 SW Burnham, Tigard, Oregon 97223 Telephone: 503-620-4540 ♦ Facsimile: 503-620-4315 | | | | | | |

EXHIBIT A
PAGE 12 OF 22

Case 3:18-cv-01905-SB Document 16-1 Filed 01/03/19 Page 13 of 22

| 1 | Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc., dba CED Power requests that judgment be entered in its | | | | |
|----|--|--|--|--|--|
| 2 | favor and against defendant Nova Group, Inc. in the principal amount of \$424,395.20, together with | | | | |
| 3 | interest at the rate pursuant to contract or statute from the dates due until paid, on the principal | | | | |
| 4 | balance (\$424,395.20) until paid, and for its attorney fees and costs and disbursements herein. | | | | |
| 5 | 4. In the alternative to Counts One and Two above, on its <u>Second Claim For Relief</u> , | | | | |
| 6 | Third Count, Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc., dba CED Power requests that judgment be | | | | |
| 7 | entered in its favor and against defendant Nova Group, Inc. in the principal amount of \$424,395.20, | | | | |
| 8 | together with interest at the rate of 9% per annum from December 29, 2017 until paid, and for its | | | | |
| 9 | costs and disbursements herein. | | | | |
| 10 | DATED this 3/ day of October, 2018. | | | | |
| 11 | SCOTT ♦ HOOKLAND LLP | | | | |
| 12 | | | | | |
| 13 | Douglas R. Hookland, OSB #872583 | | | | |
| 14 | drh@scott-hookland.com | | | | |
| 15 | Of Attorneys for Use Plaintiff Consolidated | | | | |
| 16 | Electrical Distributors, Inc., dba CED Power | | | | |

Page 7 - COMPLAINT

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PAGE 13 OF 22

*** L. . / NOT REPRESENT ALL UNPAID ITEMS ***

STATEMENT

Page 1

Please remit to:

CONSOLIDATED ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS

P.O. Box 847068

Los Angeles, CA 90084-7068

CDC=Disc Chargeback

Location

Account

Date

5501

NC60829

09/17/2018

Refer to invoices for taxes. A Service Charge will be made for Past Due Accounts.

NOVA GROUP BONNEVILLE DAM - 6.1MIL P.O. BOX 4050 NAPA, CA 94558

Please check off the invoices you are paying and send a copy of this statement along with your remittance to the address printed above.

| Age | Date | Code | Reference | Customer PO# | Discount | Amount |
|-----|------------|------|-----------|-------------------------|----------|--------------|
| 90+ | 10/25/2017 | | 407011 | 1404PO002 | | 1,157,040.00 |
| 90+ | 10/25/2017 | CSR | 924688 | ON ACCT ACH PMT 2/13/18 | 1 | 908,788.00- |
| 90+ | 10/25/2017 | CSR | 954256 | PP 407011 | | 531,952.80- |
| 90+ | 12/29/2017 | | 407217 | 1404PO002 | | 708,636.00 |

| Total Due | Current | Past Due | Past Due | Past Due |
|-----------------|---------|----------|----------|------------|
| 424,935.20 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 0.00 | 424,935.20 |
| Pay This Amount | 1 - 30 | 31 - 60 | 61 - 90 | Over 90 |

COR=Correction CRM=Credit Memo CSR=Cash RecVd FRT=Freight NSF=NSF Check SVC=Service C

EXHIBIT A PAGE I

Exhibit A
Page 8 of 8

Dan Gragg, OSB 96066 Andrew MacKendrick, OSB 141022 SEIFER, YEATS, ZWIERZYNSKI & GRAGG, LLP 121 SW Morrison Street, Suite 1025 Portland, OR 97204

Email: <u>gragg@seifer-yeats.com</u> amm@seifer-yeats.com

Telephone: (503) 223-6740 Facsimile: (503) 223-9564

Attorneys For Defendants

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DISTRICT OF OREGON

PORTLAND DIVISION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA for the use and benefit of CONSOLIDATED ELECTRICAL DISTRIBUTORS, INC., a Delaware corporation, dba CED POWER,

Plaintiff,

VS.

NOVA GROUP, INC., a California corporation; FEDERAL INSURANCE COMPANY, an Indiana corporation; and LIBERTY MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, a Massachusetts corporation,

Defendants.

Case No. 3:18-cv-01905-SB

ANSWER, AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES, AND COUNTERCLAIM

Pursuant to Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, Rule 12, Defendants Nova Group, Inc. ("Nova"), Federal Insurance Company ("Federal"), and Liberty Mutual Insurance Company ("Liberty") (collectively "Defendants"), through undersigned counsel, submit their Answer,

EXHIBIT A
PAGE 15 OF 22

Affirmative Defenses, and Counterclaim to Plaintiff Consolidated Electrical Distributors, Inc. as follows:

JURISDICTION

1. Paragraph 1 calls for a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny.

PARTIES

- 2. Defendants are without sufficient knowledge to affirm or deny the allegations in paragraph 2; therefore, Defendants deny the same.
- 3. Admitted.
- 4. Admitted.
- 5. Admitted

FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF

(Miller Act Bond Claim Against All Defendants)

- 6. Admitted or denied as previously set forth herein.
- 7. Admitted.
- 8. Admit that Nova as principal, and Federal and Liberty as sureties, executed a bond (the "Bond") in compliance with 40 USC §270(a)(2) for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material in the prosecution of the work provided for in the contract between the US Army Corps of Engineers (the "Corps") and Nova (the "Contract"), solicitation No. W9127N-14-R-0031-0010 (the "Project"), deny as to the remainder.
- 9. Admit that Plaintiff furnished materials to the Project and that some of said materials were installed at the Project, and that some of the materials were rejected by the Corps. Deny as to the remainder.
- 10. Denied.



Case 3:18-cv-01905-SB Document 10 Filed 12/13/18 Page 3 of 9

- 11. Paragraph 11 calls for a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the same.
- 12. Defendants are without sufficient knowledge to affirm or deny the allegations in paragraph 12; therefore, Defendants deny the same.
- 13. Paragraph 13 calls for a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the same.
- 14. Paragraph 14 calls for a legal conclusion to which no response is required. To the extent a response is required, Defendants deny the same.

SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF

COUNT ONE
(On Account Against Nova)

- 15. Admitted or denied as previously set forth herein.
- 16. Denied.
- 17. Denied.
- 18. Denied.

COUNT TWO (Breach of Contract Against Nova)

- 19. Admitted or denied as previously set forth herein.
- 20. Admit that Nova and Plaintiff entered into a written purchase order (the "P.O.") for the furnishing of certain materials and that upon full and timely compliance with all of the terms and conditions of the P.O. that Nova would make payment to Plaintiff in accordance with the terms of the P.O., deny as to the remainder.
- 21. Denied.
- 22. Denied.
- 23. Denied.



24. Denied.

COUNT THREE (Quantum Meruit Against Nova)

- 25. Admitted or denied as previously set forth herein.
- 26. Nova admits that admits that Plaintiff furnished materials in the State of Oregon. Nova denies the remaining allegations in paragraph 26.
- 27. Denied.
- 28. To the extent not expressly admitted above, Defendants deny each and every allegation in Plaintiff's Complaint in their entirety.

AFFIRMATIVE DEFENSES

- 29. All materials and equipment furnished by Plaintiff are expressly subject to the inspection and approval of Nova, the Corps, and any other entity so indicated in the Contract. At present, the Corps has provided notice that it has rejected materials furnished by Plaintiff.
- 30. All materials and equipment furnished by Plaintiff are expressly required to meet and conform to the plans and specifications of the Contract, including all amendments, drawings, conditions and addenda and modifications to date (the "Contract Documents"). The Corps asserts that some or all of the materials and equipment furnished by Plaintiff fail to conform to the Contract Documents.
- 31. Any defective item which does not comply with the Contract may, at Plaintiff's risk and expense, either be returned to Plaintiff or disposed of by Nova for Plaintiff's account without prejudice to Nova's claim for damage or loss under the P.O. Unless the Corps accepts and pays for materials furnished by Plaintiff, Nova reserves the right to reject and return or dispose of said materials at Plaintiff's expense and risk and without prejudice to Nova's rights and remedies under the P.O.

- 32. To the extent that Plaintiff has suffered damages, the damages were caused in whole or in part by Plaintiff's failure to perform its contractual obligations, Plaintiff's negligent acts or omissions, and/or the acts or omissions of third parties over whom Defendants had/have no control and for whose acts and omissions Defendants are not legally liable.
- 33. Nova is entitled to withhold amounts otherwise due Plaintiff, and offset the costs that Nova has incurred because of and/or caused by Plaintiff.
- 34. Plaintiff's claims are barred by the doctrines of waiver, estoppel, and/or laches.
- 35. Plaintiff failed to mitigate its damages, if any.
- 36. Plaintiff failed to file suit within the time prescribed by statute, thereby barring Plaintiff's claims.
- 37. Defendant sureties' liability, if any, is limited by the penal sum of the bond.
- 38. The acts and conduct of Plaintiff and/or third parties exonerated the performance and payment bonds which were allegedly issued for the Project which is the subject of this action.
- 39. Any failure of Defendants to perform the obligations described in the Complaint resulted from Plaintiff's failure to perform its obligations in a timely, proper, competent, and complete manner, and that performance on Plaintiff's part of this obligation was a condition precedent to the performance of Defendants' obligations, if any.
- 40. If Defendants assumed any obligations under the Bond as alleged in Plaintiff's

 Complaint, then any failure on the part of Defendants to perform the obligations under
 the Bond resulted from Plaintiff's prior breach of contract, excusing Defendants'
 performance.
- 41. Plaintiff failed to satisfy all conditions and requirements of the P.O.

EXHIBIT A
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Exhibit B Page 5 of 8 42. Defendants reserve the right to add to, amend, or otherwise modify their separate and additional affirmative defenses as they deem appropriate based upon information discovered during litigation of this matter.

NOVA'S COUNTERCLAIM AGAINST PLAINTIFF

COUNT ONE (Breach of Contract/Indemnity)

- 43. This Court has jurisdiction and venue in this action pursuant to 28 U.S.C. §1367. The counterclaim involves the same parties as the Complaint and arises from the same case and controversy.
- 44. As set forth in Paragraph 20, *supra*, Nova and Plaintiff entered into a written P.O. whereby Plaintiff agreed furnish certain materials for the construction of portions of the Project in strict conformance with the Contract Documents.
- 45. Nova fully performed all of the terms and conditions of the P.O. and all conditions precedent on its part to be performed or has otherwise been excused from the same.
- 46. Plaintiff breached the P.O. by:
 - a) Failing to provide all materials in accordance with the plans,
 specifications, and the P.O.;
 - b) Failure to meet or maintain the construction schedule; and
 - c) Failing to indemnify Nova for damages suffered as a result of Plaintiff's late, incomplete or inaccurate compliance with the terms of the P.O.
- 47. As a result of Plaintiff's breach of the P.O., Nova has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, together with interest thereon at the highest rate allowed by law from the date due until the date paid.



- 48. Pursuant to the terms of the P.O., Nova is also entitled to recover its reasonable attorney fees, accounting fees, and court costs.
- 49. The Project is ongoing, and final payment has not been tendered by the Corps. Nova reserves its right to amend its counterclaim to incorporate additional sums resulting from backcharges made by the Corps for defects, and deficiencies attributed to Plaintiff.

COUNT TWO (Breach of Warranty)

- 50. Nova re-alleges paragraphs 43, 44, 45 and 46 as if fully set forth herein.
- 51. Plaintiff expressly warranted and represented to Nova that all articles, materials and/or equipment ordered by Nova from Plaintiff would meet and conform to the plans and specifications of the Contract, including all amendments, drawings, conditions and addenda and modifications to thereto.
- 52. Plaintiff expressly warranted and represented to Nova that any defective item which fails to comply with the Contract specifications may, at Plaintiff's risk and expense, either be returned to Plaintiff or disposed of by Nova for Plaintiff's account without prejudice to Plaintiff's claim for damage or loss under the P.O.
- 53. The Corps alleges that some or all of the articles, materials and/or equipment ordered by Nova from Plaintiff fail to meet and conform to the plans and specifications of the Contract, including all amendments, drawings, conditions and addenda and modifications thereto. To the extent the Corps is correct, Plaintiff has breached its warranty.
- 54. Plaintiff failed and refused to replace those articles, materials and/or equipment rejected by the Corps, and as such has further breached its express warranty.



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- 55. As a result of Plaintiff's breaches of its warranties and representations, Nova has been damaged in an amount to be proven at trial, together with interest thereon at the highest rate allowed by law from the date due until the date paid.
- 56. Pursuant to the terms of the P.O., Nova is also entitled to recover its reasonable attorney fees, accounting fees, and court costs.

PRAYER FOR RELIEF

Wherefore, having fully answered Plaintiff's Complaint, Defendants pray for the following relief:

- A. Dismissal of Plaintiff's Complaint with prejudice;
- B. An award of damages to Nova against Plaintiff in an amount to be proven at trial;
- C. An award of attorney fees, accounting costs, and court costs incurred by Defendants in defense of Plaintiff's claims and in prosecution of all counterclaims;
- D. An award of pre and post-judgment interest at the highest rate allowed by law on all amounts awarded to Nova; and
- E. For such other relief as this Court deems just and proper.

DATED: December 13, 2018

SEIFER, YEATS, ZWIERZYNSKI & GRAGG, LLP

/s/ Dan Gragg

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